

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

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FM AMCONSUL LUANDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3455

INFO AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMCONSUL CAPE TOWN

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SUBJECT: SAVIMBI CALLS FOR AN URGENT INTER-LIBERATION GROUP SUMMIT
TO AVOID CIVIL WAR AND MAJOR POWER INTERFERENCE

1. ON HIS ARRIVAL AT THE LUSO AIRPORT APRIL 19
UNITA PRESIDENT JONAS SAVIMBI PUBLICLY URGED AN MPLA-FNLA-UNITA
SUMMIT MEETING TO PUT AN END TO VIOLENCE AND MOVE THE
DECOLONIZATION
PROCESS FORWARD. SAVIMBI'S BRIEF ARRIVAL
REMARKS WERE UNORGANIZED AND STRIDENT AND, AT ONE POINT HE
CASTIGATED HIS OWN FOLLOWERS FOR APPLAUDING VIOLENCE. THE
FOLLOWING DAY SAVIMBI DELIVERED A MAJOR SPEECH, PORTIONS OF
WHICH FOLLOW.

2. U.S. AND RUSSIA: "THE POLITICAL SITUATION IN OUR COUNTRY
IS DETERIORATING DAILY ... IF WE CHOOSE THE ROAD OF
INTIMIDATION, VIOLENCE, INTRIGUE, WE WILL CREATE THE
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CONDITIONS FOR THIS COUNTRY TO BECOME A FOCUS OF INTER-

NATIONAL TENSION, WHERE WE'LL SEE THE AMERICAN AND RUSSIANS FIGHTING."

3. OLD ARMS AND NEW ARMS. "THE ARMS WE RECEIVED DURING THE LIBERATION STRUGGLE WERE FROM FRIENDLY COUNTRIES ... AND WE OWE THEM OUR THANKS ... BUT ARMS SENT HERE NOW ARE NOT FOR OUR LIBERATION ... WHOMEVER SENDS ARMS NOW DESIRES TO SEE OUR PEOPLE KILLED SO THAT THEY CAN EXPLOIT US."

4. A VIETNAM LESSON? "TODAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND IN ASIA, THE WAR ISN'T DECIDED ON THE GROUND, BUT BY THE TWO (U.S. AND USSR) AGREEING WHO WILL STAY. THEN IT'S THE RUSSIAN WHO STAYS AND THE AMERICAN WHO LEAVES, WITHOUT A BIT OF RESPECT FOR THE WISHES OF THE LOCAL PEOPLE."

5. NON ALIGNMENT, CIVIL WAR, AND THE U.N. "TODAY IN EUROPE, LED BY FRANCE, WE SEE THE CONSOLIDATION OF INDEPENDENCE IN RELATION TO THE AMERICANS ... AND IN THE COMMUNIST WORLD? WHAT ARE THE POSITIONS OF RUMANIA, OF YUGOSLAVIA? THEY REFUSE TO BE A PART OF RUSSIAN HEGEMONY. THE CIVIL WAR IN ANGOLA WILL NOT BE CONTROLLED BY MPLA, NOR BY FNLA, BUT BY THE UN. WHEN THE UN GETS IN HERE, NOBODY WILL BE ABLE TO RAISE HIS HEAD."

6. ELECTIONS. SAVIMBI NOTED THAT THE ACCORDS CALLED FOR A CONSTITUTION AND ELECTIONS, BUT THAT NO PROGRESS HAD BEEN MADE TOWARD EITHER. HE SAID THAT "SOME PEOPLE"

WERE SAYING THERE SHOULD NOT BE ELECTIONS. SAVIMBI HAD NO OTHER COMMENT ON ELECTIONS.

7. NO TO CIVIL WAR, YES TO DEFENSE OF THE FATHERLAND. "I REFUSE TO USE MY WEAPON AGAINST A BROTHER, WHETHER MPLA OR FNLA ... BUT IF THERE'S AN INVASION OF ANGOLA ANYWHERE, IN CABINDA, THE CUNENE, I'M READY TO MARCH WITH MY RIFLE ... THERE ARE CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS WHO ARE PREPARING A WAR, SAYING THEY'LL GET THE CUNENE, SAYING THEY'LL GET CABINDA. TO THEM I GUARANTEE THAT UNITA AND I WILL BE AT THE FRONT, FIGHTING."

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8. DON'T TREAD ON US. AFTER SAYING UNITA WOULD NOT FIGHT ITS "BROTHER MOVEMENTS", SAVIMBI SAID, HOWEVER IF THEY START IT, "WE WILL FIGHT AND WE WON'T STOP UNTIL WE'VE WON."

9. A CAPITALIST WITHOUT CAPITAL? "WELL, NOW THERE'S A NEW EPITHET ... WE'VE BEEN CALLED REACTIONARIES, TRIBALISTS, IMPERIALISTS AND TRAITORS. NOW THEY'VE ADDED CAPITALIST."

ME, A CAPITALIST WITHOUT CAPITAL?" SAVIMBI WENT ON TO SAY
HE WANTED A SOCIALIST ANGOLA, BUT THAT PRIVATE INITIATIVE
WAS NEEDED AND MUST BE RESPECTED. NATIONALIZATION OF
FOEIGN CAPITAL IS A LUXURY THAT ONLY POOR COUNTRIES CAN AFFORD.

10. THE BALANCE OF SAVIMBI'S SPEECH WAS DEVOTED TO
A PERSONAL DEFENSE AGAINST OLD ACCUSATIONS.
KILLORAN

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